

Auchtertool Community Council

Minutes of meeting held on 9 September 2025

Attendees

Andrea Cail (AC)

Cllr Lesley Backhouse (CLB)

Gill Cura (GC)

Callum Thom (CT)

Andrea Cowan (ACo)

Cllr Kathleen Leslie (CKL)

Debbie Scollay (DS)

Cllr Julie MacDougall (CJM)

Apologies

Ross Mitchell (RM)

Iain Martin (IM)

Chair's Welcome

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting, the first following the Summer break.

Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the June meeting were reviewed with no changes proposed.

- Proposed: Andrea Cowan
- Seconded: Andrea Cail

Matters Arising

Fife Council notified of changes to ACC members.

- ACo cant be Treasurer as a co-opted member; however as ACC advertised for members in December and Andrea Cowan and Callum Thom were the only ones to step-forward they become elected members with full voting rights
- Fife Council were also notified that Thomas Lochhead and Kevin Carter have stepped down.
- ACC can have one more elected more member - allowed up to 8.

Treasurer's Report

- Remainder of £2,500 payment made to ACT – grant applications are regular.
- £1.653 paid in from 4WT.
- FVA paid £60 to audit accounts
- £745 to Village Hall Committee for new noticeboard
- Balance £2,127.08

Police Report

Graffiti in village was cleaned off home in Halyard Terrace with assistance from CJM, still being looked into.

ACT poster set alight and bus shelter Perspex melted. CLB offered to raise it with FC to replace panel.

Planning Applications

No new applications

- ILI – no updates through planning. Data Centre – limited interaction. ILI have suggested a Teams call to follow up on Qs asked – they confirmed all the Qs were unknowns at the moment.
- Locogen have added additional information to conditions attached to Solar Farm project. Colen Telfer has been asked to vacate fields from September 2025.
- Auchtertool to Lochgelly road now reopen but is now single track as has significantly narrowed in places. Passing places still in situ. Cllrs to notify Lesley Craig, Fife Council

Roads

- Chair attended CC Chairs' meeting in June. Shared that Giffordtown has been piloting an i-pad sized computer to track how many people who are doing excessive speeds.

4WT

Debbie Scollay now Secretary of 4WT

As Board of 4WT comprises members of all 4 CCs it was felt a requirement to review the 4WT itself, how it operated and whether it is reaching the groups it aspires to. E.g. is it reaching Auchtertool? Needs to be a group that has a constitution or accounts.

Encouraged any eligible community groups to apply – requirement for application

Add advert to village website for grants and additional 4WT Board Member. Next grant is November 2025, applications close end of October.

Projects

- Planters in situ and have looked lovely over the summer
 - Still some money available from \$WT with a view to putting in some bedding plants over winter
 - Shout out to be added to website/billboard for 3-4 gardeners to take this on as an ongoing project

- Senior Christmas/Summer Parties - Shout out to be added to website/billboard for 3-4 people to take this on as an ongoing project. For Christmas 2025, hall and caterers are already booked. Chair drafting something to share in village to ensure that this year and will share with Janet Vergo to review before publishing.
 - Entertainment or band still required. Cllrs made suggestions for entertainment that could support budget
 - Potentially sits with one of the village committees – Village Hall seems like the best fit in relation to the events
 - 52 seniors have attended recent events. Doesn't have to be a senior citizen that runs it.

Village Issues

- Parking on farm track/old railway line/back of Newbigging Terrace, behind opening to sewage works – Cllr asked if this could be referred to Safer Communities. CJM will review on land map and consider whether any action is required. If private land no action can be taken.

Community Council Communications

- CC Chair's meeting every quarter
 - Concerns over number of new energy projects in area. Proposal for CCs to join forces to review number of projects
 - Motion has been around local councillors, amended but has general agreement.
 - Asked to discuss amended motion re mapping across Fife to support strategic overview (Chair to circulate email)
- Scottish Fire & Rescue Service Consultation to cut number of appliances in Fife.
 - Lochgelly has specific rope rescue unit who attend incidents from further afield.
 - Potentially will impact timely attendance at any incidents in Auchtertool
 - Potential fire safety risks of battery storage farms

AOCB

- None raised by ACC members
- Chair invited members of the village to raise issues/to be added to agenda for next meeting.
 - None raised

Date of Next Meeting

Proposed date of next meeting 730pm on Tuesday 7 October 2025 (in person) to avoid holidays